

CROSBY, CARESSE, 1892-1970.
Caresse Crosby and The Black
Sun Press collection, 1928-1970

Emory University
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-727-6887
rose.library@emory.edu

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Crosby, Caresse, 1892-1970.
Title: Caresse Crosby and The Black Sun Press collection, 1928-1970
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 1174
Extent: .25 linear ft. (1 box)
Abstract: Collection of materials relating to Caresse Crosby and her work with The Black Sun Press primarily containing correspondence and printed material.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Related Materials in Other Repositories

Caresse Crosby papers, Morris Library Special Collections, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.

Source

Purchase, 2011.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Caresse Crosby collection, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by Amy E. Elkins, March 2011.

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Collection Description

Biographical Note

Caresse Crosby (1892-1970) co-founded the Black Sun Press with her husband, Harry Crosby, in 1927 under the name *Éditions Narcisse*. They primarily published books in English for the American expatriate literary circles in Paris, supporting some of the earliest works by authors such as James Joyce, Kay Boyle, and D. H. Lawrence. After Harry's death in 1929, Caresse continued to publish and support artists in America, France, Italy, and Greece and acted as publisher of the Black Sun Press until 1950. Among her many publishing ventures, one of her most significant was *Portfolio: An Intercontinental Quarterly* (1945-1947). Only six issues were published, but the literary journal featured important writers and artists of the period, such as Charles Bukowski, Henri Cartier-Bresson, Albert Camus, and Pablo Picasso. D.H. Lawrence scholar and professor of English at Southern Illinois University, Harry Thornton Moore was the assistant editor for volume one of *Portfolio: An Intercontinental Quarterly*. Crosby appointed Moore as the executor of the Crosby Library and assisted with Moore's biography on D. H. Lawrence. Crosby spent the last part of her life working as a peace activist and died at her home, a 15th century castle in Italy called the Castello de Rocca Siniblada.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of correspondence, printed material, and other documents relating to Caresse Crosby and her work with the Black Sun Press. Correspondence contains letters between Crosby and Thornton Moore, C.K. Ogden, and Dorothea Tanning, as well as a letter from Aldous Huxley to Caresse Crosby's husband and business partner, Harry Crosby. Correspondence documents issues relating to the publication of Black Sun Press novels and also includes Crosby's letters about Thornton Moore's role as the Crosby Library executor in which she suggests possible locations for the collection. The correspondence also documents Crosby's thoughts about travel and literature, as well as Moore's biographical projects on D. H. Lawrence. Letters removed from books that form part of the Danowski Poetry Library are noted in the container list.

Printed material includes all of the prospectuses for the serial, *Portfolio: An Intercontinental Quarterly*, published by the Black Sun Press from 1945-1947, as well as broadsides and order forms relating to the Crosbys and Black Sun Press authors. The collection also contains two Harry Crosby calling cards, photographs, and typescripts of two poems by Harry Crosby, "Bilitis" and "Water Lilies."

Arrangement Note

Arranged by record type.

Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Calling cards, Harry Crosby, no date
1	2	Carte pneumatique, Caresse Crosby, 1928
1	3	Correspondence, Aldous Huxley to Harry Crosby, 1929
1	4	Correspondence, Caresse Crosby to C.K. Ogden, 1929 [letters acquired with Tales Told of Shem and Shaun by James Joyce, PR6019 .O97 W64 1929 Danowski]
1	5	Correspondence, Caresse Crosby to Harry Thornton Moore, 1953-1969
1	6	Correspondence, Caresse Crosby to Harry Thornton Moore, undated
1	7	Correspondence, Caresse Crosby to Jerry OConnell, 1967
1	8	Correspondence, Dorothea Tanning to Caresse Crosby, 1944 [letter acquired with Three Plays by Ramon Sartoris, PN6120 .A5 S33 1944 Danowski]
1	9	Correspondence, John S. Diekhoff to W.P. Jones, 1970 [letter acquired with Ulysses by James Joyce, PR6019 .O97 U4 1926]
1	10	Correspondence, Kay Boyle to Harry Thornton Moore, 1957, 1969
1	11	Correspondence, Polia Chentoff to Harry Crosby, 1920
1	24	Correspondence, unidentified, possibly about Lord Byron
1	12	Correspondence, unidentified to Harry Thornton Moore, undated
1	23	Correspondence, unidentified to Paul Field, 1935 [removed from <i>War Letters</i> , PS3505 .R886 W37 1932]
1	13	Envelope addressed to Mrs. Hendrick Duryea (?), 1928
1	14	Photographs, 1927-1964
1	15	Poem, Harry Crosby, "Bilitis" typescript, no date
1	16	Poem, Harry Crosby, "Water-Lilies" typescript, no date
1	17	Printed material, broadside, Caresse Crosby MANI?E?TO (Manifesto), circa 1950
1	18	Printed material, broadside, "What famous authors say about Crosby editions," no date
1	19	Printed material, card, "If there are enough translations of Rimbaud worth printing the Black Sun Press will issue a volume of them," no date
1	20	Printed material, order form, "The Black Sun Press Announces Misfortunes of the Immortals by Max Ernst," no date
1	21	Printed material, program, "The Private and Public Life of the Animals," exhibit preview, Caresse Crosby Gallery of Art (Washington, D.C.), no date [2 copies]
1	22	Printed material, prospectuses for Portfolio: An Intercontinental Quarterly , 1945-1947
